

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

ESCH *ET AL.*

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application Serial No.: 08/870,591

Examiner: HENDRICKSON, S.L.

Filed: June 6, 1997

Title: PRECIPITATED SILICA

February 12, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.96, 1.97, and 1.98, the applicants request consideration of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. As these documents are U.S. patents, copies of the cited documents are not enclosed.

The applicants do not waive any rights to appropriate action to establish patentability over the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application. This statement should not be construed as a representation that more material information does not exist or that an exhaustive search of the relevant art has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be fully compliant with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.96, and 1.97. However, should the examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, the applicants earnestly solicit prompt notice to that effect, along with additional time under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(f) to enable the applicants to comply fully.

The applicants respectfully request consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-identified application.

Inventor(s): ESCH *et al.*
Application No.: 08/870,591
Attorney Docket No.: 021123-0238397

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first official action on the merits following a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Therefore the applicants believe that no fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,

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